

# **Bird Information, Research and Data Quarterly Report**

**January, February, March 2017**

**Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation**



**Visitors on a Waterthrush Walk in March spotted the bird, just back from the tropics, along Vaughn's Creek.**



**Lipscomb University Ornithology Students learn about bird research from Nature Center Director Vera Vollbrecht.**



**A Bald Eagle was spotted in a field in Percy Warner Park near Hwy 100 this winter. Documenting bird sightings is valuable bird data and can show changes over time**



**This Hermit Thrush is a winter resident in the Park and an exciting bird to observe, document and band.**



**Beth Preston is a volunteer with Project FeederWatch and weekly records numbers of birds and species that visit the feeders and bird bath outside the nature center library.**



**Justin Hiltner and Laura Cook are new volunteers with the banding program and are part of the team that makes the Warner Park BIRD project possible!**

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## **BIRD Program Accomplishments**

- Coordinator worked 264 hours and volunteered 73 hours
- Volunteers contributed **385 hours and 141 visits**
- Bird Research Projects and Programs connected with over **793 visitors**
- 2016 Banding Records entered into database and sent in to USGS Bird Banding Laboratory
- 2016 Annual Report, 4th Quarter 2016 report & Project Reports, Bluebird & Hummingbird, were compiled
- Winter season banding records compiled and sent in to Banding Association (IBBA) for publication
- Planned and scheduled spring 2017 banding project and summer MAPS banding project
- BIRD sub-committee met several times and initiated a new way for visitors to easily make a \$10 donation or “CHIRP” to support bird education & research on the FOWP website
- Met with Dr. John Lewis and 2016 BIRD Interns about student research and poster projects
- Ordered bands, books and equipment for 2017 projects
- Allison Salas compiled report of the 2016 Feather Project with UCLA Center for Tropical Research and shipped feathers. Feather samples from 27 individuals of 18 species were reported. 2nd year for this project
- BIRD volunteer and crew member John Kell received his banding permit from the USGS Bird Banding Laboratory with Master Bander Cyndi Routledge. John volunteers at Warner Park, works with several projects in the Middle Tennessee, is a TN Naturalist and NTOS Board member. Congratulations to John!

## **Bird Projects and Programs**

- **Winter Banding Project, compiled by Kathy Shaw:**  
8 banding sessions were held Jan - Feb with a total of 319 birds of 17 species captured in 332 net/trap hours. Best day was 4 Feb with 75 birds of 14 species. Most common bird, with 97 captures, was the Carolina chickadee. Purple finch, yellow-rumped warbler and hermit thrush were infrequent birds that were captured. Interesting recapture included a tufted titmouse banded as an adult on 23 June 2008 and caught again on 4 February 2017. All sessions were open to the public, with a total of 388 park visitors who observed banding and learned about birds and bird research. Thanks to the dedicated bird research crew of volunteers and staff that made these projects and programs possible this winter: Kathy Shaw, Diana McLusky, Ethel Kawamura, Kim Bailey, Rachel Anderson, Susan Bradfield, John Kell, Allison Salas, Heather Gallagher, Laura Cook, Elizabeth Cook, Justin Hiltner, and Jo Neumaier.
- **6 Bird Programs** presented with 405 participants, including a Winter Bird Day on Saturday, 4 February
- **eBird Project** continued. Volunteers John Kell, Allison Salas, Cheryl Brummel, Sandy Bivens entered data. An adult bald eagle was spotted in Percy Warner Park on 8 February and added to eBird and Park records
- **Bluebird Project:** Diana McLusky planned 2017 Bluebird Nest Box project ; field notebooks created, checked & repaired all boxes with John Kell, and oriented the team of 5 volunteers for the upcoming season
- **Purple Martin Project:** Heather Gallagher cleaned martin boxes and readied them for the martins return
- **Project FeederWatch 2016-2017, coordinator Melissa Donahue:**
  - A Citizen Science Partnership with Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ongoing here since 1979, 20 years!
  - Conducted 20 sessions, November through April, with a total of 33 species recorded
  - 19 was highest number of species recorded in one session and highest number of individuals was 69
  - 11 Volunteers and 2 staff made this project possible. Thanks to Laurie Campbell, Beth Preston, Lauren and Della Hoffman, Margie Hunter, the Barnes Family, Daniela Popa, Erika Taylor, Katie Doyl, Kerry Carden and Rebecca Dandekar

**Bird Education and Research Program Coordinator Sandy Bivens, Assistant Coordinator Kathy Shaw**

**Submitted by Sandy Bivens, 26 April 2017**